



**MARYLAND HEALTH CARE COMMISSION**

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April 29, 2021

By E-Mail

Yinka Fadiora  
Hope Health Systems, Inc.  
1726 Whitehead Road  
Woodlawn, Maryland 21207

James C. Buck, Esquire  
Gallagher Evelius & Jones LLP  
218 North Charles Street, Suite 400  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Dana Farrakhan, MHS, FACHE  
Senior Vice President  
University of Maryland Medical Center, Inc.  
22 S. Greene Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Re: Hope Health Systems, Inc.  
Application for Certificate of Need  
Docket No.: 20-03-2444

Dear Mr. Fadiora, Mr. Buck, and Ms. Farrakhan:

I have been appointed, pursuant to COMAR 10.24.01.09A(1)(b), to serve as Reviewer of the application Hope Health Systems, Inc. (Hope Health) for Certificate of Need (CON) by to establish a 16-bed special psychiatric hospital for children and adolescents in Woodlawn (Baltimore County), Maryland. Sheppard Pratt Health System, Inc. (Sheppard Pratt) and the University of Maryland Medical Center, Inc. (UMMC) each sought interested party status, while only Sheppard Pratt filed comments opposing the application as provided in COMAR 10.24.01.03F. I find that, pursuant to COMAR 10.24.01.01B(2) and (20), I recognize Sheppard Pratt and UMMC as interested parties in this review because each is authorized to provide the same service as that proposed by the applicant in the same planning region.

On April 26, 2021, Hope Health filed its response to Commission staff's April 12, 2021 completeness questions. It clarified that its response also constitutes a response to Sheppard Pratt's March 31, 2021 comments on Hope Health's March 15, 2021 modifications of its application, as well as its responses to the March 24, 2021 questions propounded by staff of the Health Services Cost Review Commission. I will review Hope Health's response to determine if its modified application is now complete. If I determine that it is not complete, I will ask additional questions. If I decide that it is complete, staff will post the filing on the website and send a notice that the

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filing has been posted, beginning the 10-day period in which the interested parties may file comments on the application as modified by Hope Health's responses. If an interested party files comments, Hope Health will have 10 days after receipt of the comments in which to file its response. Please do not submit additional replies unless I approve such filings in advance.

I request that all filings in this review continue to be submitted in PDF format by email to the parties in this review, to Ms. Ruby Potter, and to others copied on the email by which this letter ruling is sent. In addition, please send a copy of all filings to Ms. Potter in Word format, since having the filing in that format will assist me in these reviews.

I advise all parties that this is a contested case and that the *ex parte* prohibitions in the Administrative Procedure Act, Maryland Code Ann., State Gov't §10-219, apply to this proceeding until the Commission issues a final decision.

Sincerely,



Marcia L Boyle  
Commissioner/Reviewer

cc: Nilesh Kalyanaraman, M.D., Health Officer, Anne Arundel County  
Letitia Dzirasa, M.D., Health Officer, Baltimore City  
Gregory W. Branch, M.D., Health Officer, Baltimore County  
Edwin F. Singer, Health Officer, Carroll County  
David Bishai, M.D., Health Officer, Harford County  
Maura J Rossman, M.D., Health Officer, Howard County  
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Suellen Wideman, Assistant Attorney General  
Paul Parker, Director, Center for Health Care Facilities Planning and Development  
Kevin McDonald, Chief, CON  
Jeanne Marie Gawel, Program Manager